

true justice have had and will continue to have on our legal system. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of California, I salute and thank Judge Horace Wheatley for his invaluable contributions to the people of Alameda County, the 9th Congressional District, the State of California and our entire country.

CONGRATULATING NEW NMA
PRESIDENT DR. SANDRA L.
GADSON

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize and congratulate one of my constituents and the 106th president of The National Medical Association, Dr. Sandra L. Gadson.

Founded in 1895, the National Medical Association, NMA, is the largest and oldest national organization representing African American physicians and their patients in the United States. The NMA represents the interests of more than 35,000 African American physicians and the patients they serve and is the leading force for parity and justice in medicine and the elimination of health disparities. Throughout its history, the National Medical Association has focused primarily on health issues related to African Americans and medically underserved populations, as well as all ethnic groups.

Many years ago, Dr. Gadson was herself a patient, facing a battle with colon cancer. In her own words, Dr. Gadson stated: "When my patients curse a rising wave of pain or struggle to give voice to their suffering, I understand because I've been there." This experience has not only influenced Dr. Gadson to be a more sensitive and empathetic doctor, but it inspired her to improve the quality of service available to patients everywhere.

While working in the Emergency Room at Methodist Hospital in Gary, Indiana, Dr. Gadson was shocked to learn that the predominately poor, African American city had a high prevalence of kidney failure but no dialysis center. She immediately took action and established the first freestanding dialysis center in northern Indiana.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Gadson said that as president of NMA, she will work to increase its membership and mentorship, advocate for a national health plan of universal coverage, strengthen partnerships with churches and the media to promote health awareness, and to launch initiatives in kidney disease that encourage transplantation and organ donation. Dr. Gadson, a practicing nephrologist, also made note of the fact that African Americans make up 13 percent of the U.S. population but nearly one-third of all kidney patients. "The crisis of kidney failure in the African American community mirrors the dilemma of health care disparities," Dr. Gadson stated.

Dr. Gadson's contributions to the health community have been enumerable. As president of the NMA, she will continue to help decrease health disparities and increase access to high quality healthcare for all Americans. We are truly fortunate to have her as a part of our community, and I congratulate her on her achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
WITH GOVERNMENT REFORM TO
GIVE DC CITIZENS A PLACE IN
STATUARY HALL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Government Reform Committee Chair TOM DAVIS (R-VA) and House Administration Committee Ranking Member JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD (D-CA) are introducing a bill with me today to permit two statues honoring citizens of the District of Columbia in Statuary Hall of the Capitol, just as statues honoring citizens of States are placed in the historic hall. This legislation would allow the city to offer two statues to the Congress on behalf of DC residents. As I introduce this bill, as we have just honored the citizens of New Mexico, I ask the committee to remember that with the placement of their second statute, a bill I was pleased to support, I seek equal recognition for the citizens of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia was born with the Nation itself. The city has more than two centuries of its very own rich and uniquely American history. It goes without saying that the almost 650,000 American citizens who live in the Nation's Capital deserve the honor of having two of its history makers represented in the halls of the Nation's Capital just as citizens who live in the 50 States have long enjoyed.

Our bill would allow the Mayor and the City Council to devise the method for determining the identity of the honorees, who must be deceased. Mayor Anthony Williams has already agreed to find funds in the District's budget for these statues upon the passage of this legislation.

Every time we allow the District to be excluded from its place among the 50 States, we undermine the Nation's efforts to spread full democracy around the world. While DC residents have not yet obtained the same political equality and voting rights as the citizens of the States, they have all the responsibilities of the States, including paying all Federal taxes and serving in all wars. Today, when our residents are serving in Iraq, the least we should do is to give this city its rightful and equal place in the Capitol. Among our residents now serving their country, the District lost 44-year-old Lt. Col. Paul W. Kimbrough, an African American engineer who was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. I attended the funeral of 21-year-old Specialist Darryl Dent of the DC National Guard who was killed in Iraq. There are more than 100 soldiers still serving in Iraq from Specialist Dent's 547th Transportation Company.

This bill offers District residents the opportunity to enjoy the same pride that all other citizens experience when they come to their Capital—the opportunity to view memorials that commemorate the efforts of deceased local residents who have made significant contributions to American history.

REP. BARBARA LEE HONORED BY
THE 100 BLACK MEN OF SILICON
VALLEY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Ms. LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation is proud to recognize the achievements of our colleague, Rep. Barbara Lee, upon the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley.

The concept of the 100 Black Men was born in New York in 1963, when a group of concerned African American men gathered to explore ways of improving conditions in their community. These visionaries and industry leaders included David Dinkins, Jackie Robinson, Nathaniel Goldston III, Andrew Hatcher and founding President Dr. William Hayling.

The mission of the 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley is to improve the quality of life of our citizens and enhance educational opportunities for African Americans and minorities, through its chapters, in all communities—with a particular emphasis on young African American males. They do this by focusing on mentoring, education, health and wellness, and economic development.

It is fitting that Representative BARBARA LEE is being honored for her long record of standing for youth and family issues such as criminal justice reform as a member of the Public Safety, Sentencing and Incarceration Reform Caucus. Health and wellness has been at a priority for her in Congress as well. She has fought to establish a United States Health Service and provide health coverage for all Americans. The measure, first introduced in 1978 by her predecessor, Representative Ron Dellums, has been a priority for her since her election in 1998. Representative BARBARA LEE has also been committed to promoting economic development and supporting those who need it most, including working to secure investment in housing, transit systems, roads, clean water, and schools to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

We wish to thank the 100 Black Men for their tireless efforts to enhance the quality of life for all citizens, and to Representative BARBARA LEE for her deeply held commitment to the principle of human rights.

IN HONOR OF DON MILANESE,
VICE PRESIDENT OF LAS
POSITAS COLLEGE, ON THE OC-
CASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Milanese, vice president of Academic Services at Las Positas College in Livermore, who is retiring after 35 years of service to the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, the Tri-Valley community, and thousands of students.

Don began his career in 1964 as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of California at Davis. Following a 2-year stint in the